

Media Release

2006 taxi ballot to service people with disabilities.

The Department of Planning and Infrastructure will be holding a ballot in August to allocate nine multi purpose (wheelchair accessible) taxi licences.

Commercial Passenger Vehicle Manager, Jas Anand said the multi purpose taxi licences have special conditions that require the operator to give a priority service to people with disabilities.

Mr Anand said the NT Government is committed to ensuring the provision of high quality services and enhancing opportunities for people living with disabilities in the Northern Territory.

“The ballot is the fairest way to allocate these licences and will seek to allocate five multiple purpose taxi licences in Darwin and four in Alice Springs.”

Mr Anand said the ballot is open to all operators currently accredited under the *Commercial Passenger (Road) Transport Act*.

He said those interested in taking part in the ballot could obtain application forms by telephoning DPI's Commercial Passenger Vehicle branch on 8924 7580.

The ballot process will be conducted publicly at 11am on Thursday August 17 2006, under the scrutiny of the taxi ballot steering committee.

Industry members and interested members of the public are invited to attend an information forum that will commence prior to the ballot draw from 10am at Level 2 Meeting Room, NT Archives Building, 25 Cavenagh St, Darwin.

This will be the fourth ballot to take place in 18 months. The last taxi ballot took place in October 2005 and successfully allocated seven taxi licences in Darwin and Alice Springs, including five multi purpose licences.

Applications to enter the taxi ballot will close at 2pm on Friday 11 August, 2006. Only original ballot application forms will be accepted.

Ends.

Media note: For more information contact Jas Anand on 8924 7501